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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

With all the striving and energy that we use to make our mark, we pray, Almighty God, that we would also slow our pace and listen to Your still small voice that speaks to us in our hearts and in our minds. Just as we learn to speak, so may we learn to listen; just as we declare our ideas, so may we reflect on what others teach us; just as we hear the voices around us, so may Your gracious word speak to us in the depths of our souls, redeeming, forgiving, uniting us in faith and hope and love. May Your blessings, O God, become new to us each morning and be with us all the day long. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GIBBONS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2071. An Act to extend a quarterly financial report program administered by the Secretary of Commerce.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. One minutes will be at the end of legislative business today.

PROVIDING FOR DELIBERATIVE REVIEW BY COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY OF COMMUNICATION FROM INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 525, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 525

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary shall review the communication received on September 9, 1998, from an independent counsel pursuant to section 595(c) of title 28, United States Code, transmitting a determination that substantial and credible information received by the independent counsel in carrying out his responsibilities under chapter 40 of title 28, United States Code, may constitute grounds for an impeachment of the President of the United States, and related matters, to determine whether sufficient grounds exist to recommend to the House that an impeachment inquiry be commenced. Until otherwise ordered by the House, the review by the committee shall be governed by this resolution.

SEC. 2. The material transmitted to the House by the independent counsel shall be considered as referred to the committee. The portion of such material consisting of approximately 445 pages comprising an introduction, a narrative, and a statement of grounds, shall be printed as a document of the House. The balance of such material shall be deemed to have been received in executive session, but shall be released from the status on September 28, 1998, except as otherwise determined by the committee. Material so released shall immediately be submitted for printing as a document of the

SEC. 3. Additional material compiled by the committee during the review also shall be deemed to have been received in executive session unless it is received in an open session of the committee.

SEC. 4. Notwithstanding clause 2(e) of rule XI, access to executive-session material of the committee relating to the review shall be restricted to members of the committee, and to such employees of the committee as may be designated by the chairman after consultation with the ranking minority member.

SEC. 5. Notwithstanding clause 2(g) of rule XI, each meeting, hearing, or deposition of the committee relating to the review shall be conducted in executive session unless otherwise determined by an affirmative vote of the committee, a majority being present. Such an executive session may be attended only by members of the committee, and by such employees of the committee as may be designated by the chairman after consultation with the ranking minority member.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, September 10, 1998, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SOLOMON) is recognized for 2 hours.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, and pursuant to the order of the House of September 10, 1998, I yield 60 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, during consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, as we start off, I want to commend the Speaker for his statement yesterday from the chair asking that the House conduct itself in the highest decorum possible. It was eloquent on your part and was concurred in by the Minority Leader Mr. GEPHARDT. We would remind Members of that. We have a copy of that at the desk should Members want to refresh their memory.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 525 provides for a deliberative review of the House Judiciary Committee of the communication from the independent counsel and also provides for the appropriate release of that communication.

 \Box This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \Box 1407 is 2:07 p.m. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

